Please insert the following <u>new</u> abstract:

-- ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A pharmaceutical preparation suitable for use in the eye, which comprises: (i) a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier suitable for use in the eye; (ii) one or more ingredients selected from factors and agents that promote any one or more of survival, health, cell attachment and normal differentiation of ocular surface epithelial cells and optionally factors and agents to prevent squamous metaplasia; (iii) one or more agents capable of altering the fluid properties of a tear film including at least one agent capable of establishing and/or maintaining a stable tear film and optionally one or more agents selected from ophthalmological lubricating agents, viscosity enhancing agents and agents capable of reducing tear film evaporation; the factors and agents in component (ii) and (iii) being synthetic or recombinant or licensed for pharmaceutical use.--